THE HVMBLE

PETITION

OF THE

MERCHANT-STRANGERS,

and others in the City of LONDON,

concerned in the Importation of Plate and Bullion into this Kingdome. Preſented to both Houſes of Parliament.

WITH AN

ORDINANCE

OR

DECLARATION

OF THE

LORDS and COMMONS

Aſſembled in Parliament,

Concerning the ſaid PETITION.

Die Sabbathi 26. Auguſti. 1643.

ORdered by the Lords and Commons aſſembled in Parliament, that this Petition, with the Ordinance concerning the ſame, ſhall be forthwith printed and publiſhed.

I. Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.

LONDON,

Printed for *Iohn Wright* in the Old Bayley,

Aug. 28. 1643.

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June 30, 1939

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TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORDS and COMMONS now Assembled in Parliament.

The humble Petition of the Merchant-Strangers, and others concerned in the Importation of Plate and Bullion into this Kingdom,

Sheweth,

THat the Petitioners Correspondents have forborne to lade their Plate and Bullion in English Ships, as formerly they have done, by reason of the Visits, Search,

Arreſts, and Moleſts which have been lately attempted and uſed for the finding out or ſeizing of the ſaid Plate and Bullion, which hath been a great hinderance to the Petitioners, and a generall damage to this Kingdom. For by the Importation thereof, many Shippes were imployed, the Navigation increaſed, the Owners encouraged to build and maintaine good Shippes, great profit by the Coinage, and by the low Exchange, Merchants had plenty of Money to imploy in the Manifactures of this Kingdome; and generally the whole Kingdome hath been, and is, inriched by the ſaid Treaſure that comes in and remaines in the Kingdome. And the Petitioners are very confident, That if they could give their Cor-

Correſpondents aſſurance by an Ordinance of both Houſes of Parliament, That their Plate and Bullion may for the future be imported in Engliſh Shippes without any moleſt or interruption, with Declaration that they ſhould alſo have and enjoy the full benefit of the Articles of Peace made with *Spaine*, that then they would imploy Engliſh Shippes againe, and remit their Plate and Bullion, and other Goods to *Dover*, as formerly they have done: And for the reall effecting hereof, and better encouragement of the Parties concerned, and for the removing of all Doubts and Iealouſies for the future:

The Petitioners humbly pray this moſt Honourable Aſſembly, to make an Ordinance

according to the tenour of this Petition, or as in your Wiſdomes ſhall bee thought fit, and that this Petition, together with the ſaid Ordinance, may be printed and publiſhed by Order of both Houſes of Parliament, and they permitted to ſend them abroad, for the timely prevailing and effecting of a worke of ſo much importance to this Kingdome.

And the Petitioners ſhall pray.

An

AN ORDINANCE OR DECLARATION OF THE Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament.

Die Sabbathi 26. *Auguſt*, 1643.

THe Lords and Commons now in Parliament aſſembled, having received information by a Petition of Merchant-ſtrangers, and others, concerned in the importation of Plate and Bullion into this Kingdome, That their correſpondents inhabiting in the parts beyond the Seas, have conceived many feares and jealouſies

Which

which might discourage them in the usuall importing of Bullion into this Kingdome; for the better security and encouragement of all Traders and bringers in of Bullion or Coyne into this Kingdome, doe Declare, and Ordaine, That Bullion and Coyne, that shall be brought into this Kingdome, by any English shipping, shall have free and safe passage and protection, as in any former times, both by Sea and Land, into the Ports of Dover and London: and accordingly into, and out of his Majesties Mint in the Tower of London, without any interruption.

FINIS.